

Mastering Manipulative People

"EGR's: Extra Grace Required", Part 3 of 5
Pastor Vince DiPaola

I) THE TACTICS OF MANIPULATORS

1) They ___LAY ON THE CHARM___ to persuade you.

"Then she said to him, 'How can you say, 'I love you,' when you won't confide in me? This is the third time you have made a fool of me and haven't told me the secret of your great strength. With such nagging she prodded him day after day until he was tired to death." (Judges 16:15-16, NIV)

2) They ___LOOK FOR OPENINGS___ to capitalize on you.

"He said to Jacob, 'Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!'... Jacob replied, 'First sell me your birthright.' 'Look, I am about to die,' Esau said. 'What good is the birthright to me?' But Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob" (Genesis 25:30-33, NIV)

3) They ___LEVERAGE GUILT___ to get you to cooperate.

"..Why...do you submit to its rules: 'Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!?' These are all destined to perish with use because they are based on human commands and teachings." (Colossians 2:20-22, NIV)

4) They ___LEAVE YOU THREATS___ to coerce you.

"Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus... After further threats they let them go..." (Acts 4:18 & 21a, NIV)

II) THE TRUTH ABOUT MANIPULATORS

***The ultimate goal of a manipulator is to gain**

___POWER AND CONTROL___ over people and circumstances.

***Why manipulators do it:**

1) Sometimes they do it ___NAIVELY___.

(ex. Peter, Matthew 16:21-22)

2) Sometimes they do it ___MALICIOUSLY___.

(ex. Judas, Matthew 26:14-16, 47-50)

III) THE TRIUMPH OVER MANIPULATORS

1) ___STAND UP___ to the manipulator as soon as they start.

"Jesus turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.'" (Matthew 16:21-23, NIV)

2) ___SPEAK THE TRUTH___ to the manipulator's error.

"Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body." (Ephesians 4:25, NIV)

3) ___STAND FIRM___ against the manipulator's efforts.

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." (Galatians 5:1, NIV)

4) ___SATISFY THE SAVIOR___ not the manipulator.

"Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a servant of Christ." (Galatians 1:10, NIV)